

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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|---------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| In re Patent Application of:          | ) | Confirmation No. 8448       |
| Michelle Q. Wang Baldonado et al.     | ) | Examiner: Djenane M. Bayard |
| Serial No. 09/717,303                 | ) | Group Art Unit: 2141        |
| Filed: November 22, 2000              | ) |                             |
| For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR MANAGING A | ) |                             |
| COMPUTER-MEDIATED DISCUSSION FORUM    | ) | Date: July 9, 2007          |

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants hereby submit the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, a copy of each of the documents cited is enclosed.

To assist the Examiner, the documents are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is requested that the accompanying PTO-1449 be considered and made of record in the above-identified application. It is also requested that the Examiner initial a copy of this form and return it to the undersigned.

The listed references were cited by the Japanese Patent Office (JPO) against counterpart Japanese Patent Application No. 2001-351940. Because more than three months have passed since mailing dates of the Japanese Office Actions, the references are being submitted under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(4) along with a Request for Continued Examination pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.114.

Respectfully submitted,

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| Substitute for form 1449A/PTO<br><br><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b><br><i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i> |                   |    |   | <b>Complete if Known</b> |                                   |
|                                                                                                                                           |                   |    |   | Application Number       | 09/717,303                        |
|                                                                                                                                           |                   |    |   | Filing Date              | November 22, 2000                 |
|                                                                                                                                           |                   |    |   | First Named Inventor     | Michelle Q. Wang Baldonado et al. |
|                                                                                                                                           |                   |    |   | Art Unit                 | 2141                              |
| Examiner Name                                                                                                                             | Djenane M. Bayard |    |   |                          |                                   |
| Sheet                                                                                                                                     | 1                 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number   | D/A0833 (1508/3160)               |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS |                          |                                            |                                |                                                    |                                                                                 |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | U.S. Patent Document                       | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|                       |                          | Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) |                                |                                                    |                                                                                 |
|                       |                          | US-                                        |                                |                                                    |                                                                                 |
|                       |                          | US-                                        |                                |                                                    |                                                                                 |
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|                       |                          | US-                                        |                                |                                                    |                                                                                 |
|                       |                          | US-                                        |                                |                                                    |                                                                                 |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |                          |                                                                                 |                                |                                                    |                                                                                 |                |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Examiner<br>Initials*    | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document                                                         | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear | T <sup>6</sup> |
|                          |                          | Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) |                                |                                                    |                                                                                 |                |
|                          |                          | JP-09-106331                                                                    | 04-22-1997                     |                                                    |                                                                                 | Abst.          |
|                          |                          | JP-10-303892                                                                    | 11-13-1998                     |                                                    |                                                                                 | Abst.          |
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| OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS |                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                |
|---------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Examiner<br>Initials*                             | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T <sup>2</sup> |
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|                       |  |                    |  |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| Examiner<br>Signature |  | Date<br>Considered |  |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.